

L4 ANSWER 1 OF 1 MEDLINE on STN
AN 1998406822 MEDLINE
DN 98406822 PubMed ID: 9735861
TI **Sonoporation of erythrocytes** by lithotripter
shockwaves in vitro.
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NC CA42947 (NCI)
SO ULTRASONICS, (1998 Aug) 36 (9) 947-52.
Journal code: 0050452. ISSN: 0041-624X.
CY Netherlands
DT Journal; Article; (JOURNAL ARTICLE)
LA English
FS Priority Journals
EM 199810
ED Entered STN: 19981020
Last Updated on STN: 19981020
Entered Medline: 19981005
AB **Sonoporation of red blood** cells was examined
in relation to cavitation-induced hemolysis. FITC-dextran at 580,000 MW
was added to suspensions of canine **erythrocytes** and the mixture
was exposed to lithotripter shockwaves. Exposure at 5% or 50% hematocrit
in PBS or 50% in plasma yielded not only hemolysis but also FITC-dextran
uptake in surviving cells. Hemolysis increased with increasing numbers of
shockwaves. The numbers of cells with fluorescent dextran uptake remained
roughly constant for 250-1000 shockwaves, but this represented an
increasing percentage of the surviving cells. In addition, fluorescent
microspheres formed spontaneously in samples with hemolysis. An air
bubble was needed in the chamber to obtain substantial effects,
implicating the cavitation mechanism. The exposure-response trends could
be modeled by simple theory for random interaction of the cells with
bubbles.